parliament for use in the debates on either the Railway Budget or the General Budget. Today is 26th July. The discussion on Railway Budget is already on. And we are getting these reports now. There are 3-4 reports on the Ministry of Railways. Some other reports are there concerning other Ministries. I would strongly protest against this. I protested against such a practice in 1994 also and Dr. Manmohan Singh, the then Finance Minister, had apologised to this House for the delay in the laying of the reports on the Table of the House. So far as the audit reports are concerned, they are very useful for the Members of Parliament during debates either on the Railway Budget or on the General Budget. Now the debate on the Railway Budget has already started and we are now halfway through it. Had the discussion on the General Budget also started, we would have been deprived of the benefit of these reports. It is not fair on the part of the Government to lay such important reports late. The Government ought to have laid them on the Table of the House much before.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Agarwal, you will agree with me that Papers or Reports could be laid on the Table of the House only when the Session was on. In February, we were not in Session. After that also, we were not in Session. That is why he has laid them on the Table now.

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: Even then it could have been laid earlier. The parliament is in session from the 10th of July.

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): You are right. But the situation this year is quite different because of General Election and many other factors.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes, it is a different situation. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: Unless the House is in Session, how can it be laid?

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: This could have been laid in March, before the elections.

Reports (1994-95) of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE. (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU): Madam, on behalf of SHRI MURASOLI MARAN I lay on the Table a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Reports, under clause (1) of article 151 of the Constitution:—

(i) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year ended the 31 March 1995 (No. 1 of 1996— Union Government Commercial Review of Accounts) (Placed in Library. *See. No.* LT-167/96)

(ii) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year ended the 31 March 1995 (No.2 of 1996—Union Government Commercial Comments of Accounts) (Placed in Library *See No.*LT-168/96)

(iii) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year ended the 31 March 1995 (No.3 of 1996—Union Government Commercial Audit Observations (Placed in Library. *See No.* LT-169/96)

Notification of the Ministry of Railways

रेल मंत्री श्री राम विलास पासवान: महोदया मैं रेल अधिनियम, 1989 की धारा 199 के अधीन भारतीय रेल (चालित लाइन) साधारण (संशोधन) नियम, 1996 को प्रकाशित करने वाली रेल मंत्रालय की अधिसूचना सा० का० नि० सं० 83, दिनांक 17 फरवरी, 1996 की एक प्रति (अंग्रेजी तथा हिन्दी में) सभा पटल पर रखता हूं। [पुस्तकालय में रखी गई/देखिए संख्या एल०टी०-302/96]